

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-23. (Cancelled)

24. (currently amended) A method for managing radio resources for providing wireless access to a communication system to a number of terminals, wherein the communication system comprises a first access network using a first access technology and a second access network using a second access technology different from the first access technology, wherein the method comprises the steps of:

receiving access relevant information from the first access network and the second access network, wherein the access relevant information comprises information extracted by sniffing messages sent within the first access network that describes a state of at least one of the access networks based on signal measurements and/or load measurements;

wherein the messages are sniffed by a listening agent and are directed to a entity in the first access network other than the listening agent, and wherein sniffing a message includes reading a source address, a destination address, and a data payload of the sniffed message without influencing the sniffed message;

comparing the received access relevant information extracted from messages sent within the first access network to access relevant information received from the second access network, wherein the access relevant information is expressed in comparable quantities; and

determining which access network that provides a best connection to a terminal and which access network should be accessed, based on at least a result of the comparison of the received access relevant information extracted from messages sent within the first access network to the access relevant information received from the at least one second access network.

25. (previously presented) The method according to claim 24 wherein the first access network is a wireless local area network.

26. (previously presented) The method according to claim 24 wherein at least part of the messages sent within the first access network are messages sent between access points.

27. (previously presented) The method according to claim 26 wherein the at least part of the messages sent within the first access network are defined by the Inter-Access Point Protocol (IAPP).

28. (previously presented) The method according to claim 24 wherein the extracted access relevant information comprises an identification of a terminal and an identification of an access point that the terminal has associated with.

29. (previously presented) The method according to claim 24 wherein at least part of the access relevant information is extracted by sniffing user plane traffic for at least one terminal, which access relevant information is used to calculate traffic volume and/or throughput of the at least one terminal.

30. (previously presented) The method according to claim 24 wherein at least part of the messages sent within the first access network are sent between access points and a router.

31. (previously presented) The method according to claim 24 wherein the at least part of the messages sent within the first access network are defined by the Light Weight Access Point Protocol (LWAPP).

32. (previously presented) The method according to claim 24 wherein at least part of the messages sent within the first access network are sent between at least one terminal and an access point.

33. (previously presented) The method according to claim 24 wherein at least part of the access relevant information extracted by sniffing messages sent within the first access network indicates how frequently a channel was busy, which indicates a load of the channel.

34. (cancelled)

35. (currently amended) A system for managing radio resources for providing wireless access to a communication system to a number of terminals, wherein the communication system comprises a first access network using a first access technology and a second access network using a second access technology different to the first access technology, wherein the system for managing radio resources comprises:

at least one listening agent arranged to:

extract access relevant information for at least the first access network by sniffing messages sent within at least the first access network, wherein the access relevant information comprises information describing a state of at least one of the access networks based on signal measurements and/or load measurements, wherein the messages are directed to a entity in the first access network other than the listening agent, and wherein sniffing a message includes reading a source address, a destination address, and a data payload of the sniffed message without influencing the sniffed message;

send the access relevant information to an access selection manager,

an access selection manager arranged to:

compare the received access relevant information extracted from the first access network to access relevant information received from second access network, wherein the access relevant information is expressed in comparable quantities; and

determine which of the first access network and the second access network provides the best connection to a terminal and which access network should be accessed based at least on the comparison of the access relevant information extracted from the first access network to the access relevant information received from the at least one second access network.

36. (previously presented) The system according to claim 35 wherein the first access network is a wireless local area network.

37. (previously presented) The system according to claim 35 wherein at least part of the messages sent within the first access network are messages sent between access points.

38. (previously presented) The system according to claim 37 wherein the at least part of the messages sent within the first access network are defined by the Inter-Access Point Protocol (IAPP).

39. (previously presented) The system according to claim 35 wherein the extracted access relevant information comprises an identification of a terminal and an identification of an access point that the terminal has associated with.

40. (previously presented) The system according to claim 35 wherein at least part of the access relevant information is extracted by sniffing user plane traffic for at least one terminal, which access relevant information is used to calculate traffic volume and/or throughput of the at least one terminal.

41. (previously presented) The system according to claim 35 wherein at least part of the messages sent within the first access network are sent between access points and a router.

42. (previously presented) The system according to claim 41 wherein the at least part of the messages sent within the first access network are defined by the Light Weight Access Point Protocol (LWAPP).

43. (previously presented) The system according to claim 35 wherein at least part of the messages sent within the first access network are sent between at least one terminal and an access point.

44. (previously presented) The system according to claim 35 wherein at least part of the access relevant information extracted by sniffing messages sent within the first access network indicates how frequently a channel was busy, which indicates a load of the channel.

45. (cancelled)

46. (currently amended) A listening agent for use in a system for managing radio resources, which system provides wireless access to a communication system to a number of terminals, wherein the communication system comprises a first access network using a first access technology and a second access network using a second access technology different to the first access technology, wherein the listening agent is arranged to:

extract access relevant information for at least the first access network by sniffing messages sent within at least the first access network, wherein the access relevant information comprises information describing a state of at least one of the access networks based on signal measurements and/or load measurements;

wherein the sniffed messages are directed to a entity in the first access network other than the listening agent, and wherein sniffing a message includes reading a source address, a destination address, and a data payload of the sniffed message without influencing the sniffed message; and

send the access relevant information to an access selection manager.

47-49. Canceled.